

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 OPIC-03 /079 W

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P R 311909Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3478

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

FOSIF ROTA

US SIXTHFLT

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SUMMARY: MOROCCAN AND MAURITANIAN FONMINS LEFT MADRID OCT 30 INDICATING THAT NO FUNDAMENTAL AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED AND THAT TALKS COULD BE RESUMED FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS IN THEIR CAPITALS. SOLIS TOLD PRESS TALKS WERE COMPLICATED AND SLOW AND ONE SHOULD NOT LOSE PATIENCE. SPANISH SECGEN OF SAHARA IN EL AIUUN TOLD PRESS THAT POSSIBILITY OF UN TEMPORARY MANDATE WAS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT PENDING DEFINITIVE SOLUTION WHICH COULD BE DIVIDING UP OF SAHARA AMONG THREE, REPEAT THREE NATIONS INVOLVED. PRESS QUOTES WASHINGTON POST STORY SAYING SPANISH OFFICIALS ARE DISGUSTED WITH US AND FRENCH ATTITUDES. END SUMMARY.

1. MOROCCAN FONMIN LARAKI AND MAURITANIAN FONMIN MOUKNESS LEFT MADRID OCT 30. IN DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE LARAKI SAID MUCH PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPAIN ON ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND MILITARY ASPECTS OF "RETURN OF SAHARA TO MOROCCO." LARAKI SAID ALGERIA HAD NO, REPEAT NO RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSIONS AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT F POLISARIO WAS SPAIN'S PROBLEM. MOUKNASS, HOWEVER,

WAS QUOTED AS HAVING TOLD PRESS REPS THAT "WE HAVE SUSPENDED FOR THE MOMENT THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE SAHARA PROBLEM TO CONTACT OUR RESPECTIVE GOVTS..." ADDING THAT NO FUNDAMENTAL AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED.

2. JOSE SOLIS RUIZ, MINISTER/SEC GEN OF NATIONAL MOVEMENT WHO ACCOMPANIED LARAKI TO AIRPORT SAID NEGOTIATIONS WERE COMPLICATED AND SLOW BUT WERE MOVING AHEAD AND ONE SHOULD NOT LOSE PATIENCE. DURING COURSE OF MORNING OCT 30, LARAKI, MOUKNASS AND ALGERIAN INTERIOR MINISTER, BEN AHMED ABDEL GHANI, CONSULTED IN PRESIDENCY WITH FONMIN CORTINA, TRADE MINISTER CERON AND SOLIS. ALGERIAN MINISTER REPORTEDLY DID NOT, REPEAT NOT MEET WITH THE OTHERS. THERE IS SPECULATION THAT AN F POLISARIO REP MIGHT COME TO MADRID. PRESS REPORTS THAT LARAKI ALSO HAD MEETING WITH SPANISH MINISTER OF THE ARMY, LT. GEN. COLOMA GALLEGOS.

3. COL. RODRIGUEZ DE VIGURI, SPANISH SEC GEN OF THE SAHARA, WAS INTERVIEWED OCT 30 IN EL AIUUN BY REP OF "YA" (INDEPENDENT). DE VIGURI ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE HAD SUBMITTED HIS RESIGNATION, SUBSEQUENTLY WITHDRAWN, BECAUSE HE FELT THE GOS WAS LOSING SIGHT OF THE "INDISPENSABLE NEED TO SUPPORT THE SAHARAN PEOPLE'S RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION." HE ASSERTED THAT GOS CONTINUED TO SUPPORT SELF-DETERMINATION ALTHOUGH "THE CONDITIONS FOR THE EXERCISE OF THIS RIGHT ARE UNDERGOING CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS." IN DE VIGURI'S OPINION, OUTCOME OF SELF-DETERMINATION PRESUMABLY EXPRESSED THROUGH A REFERENDUM, WOULD NOT, REPEAT NOT BE FAVORABLE TO ANNEXATION TO MOROCCO. DE VIGURI REFERRED TO SUGGESTIONS MADE BY THE UN ON THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING THE UN TAKE OVER TEMPORARY CONTROL OF THE TERRITORY PENDING THE OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS OR "THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE TERRITORY OF THE SAHARA AMONG THE THREE COUNTRIES INVOLVED." IF DE VIGURI'S LATTER STATEMENT IS ACCURATELY REPORTED IN THE PRESS, WE THINK IT IS THE FIRST TIME A SPANISH OFFICIAL HAS HINTED PUBLICLY THAT ALGERIA MIGHT JOIN IN THE DIVISION OF THE TERRITORY.

4. THE EVENING "INFORMACIONES" CARRIED A REPRISE OF A WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE SAYING SPANISH OFFICIALS ARE NOT HIDING THEIR DISGUST WITH THE QTE REFUSAL UNQX OF THE U.S. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND FRANCE TO INTERVENE DIPLOMATICALLY WITH HASSAN TO SUSPEND THE MARCH.

5. HIGH-LEVEL "CORTES" OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF OCT 31 THAT THE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL GIVING THE GOVT A FREE-HAND TO DISPOSE OF THE SPANISH SAHARA, A CONSTITUTIONAL NECESSITY OWING TO TERRITORY'S STATUS AS A SPANISH PROVINCE, WAS PROCEEDING IN NORMAL LEGISLATIVE CHANNELS WHICH WOULD

PERMIT ITS ADOPTION BY NOV 15. CORTES PROCEDURES ARE
SUCH THAT THE PROCESS COULD BE READILY SPEEDED UP IF
NECESSARY.
STABLER

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